

Laconia Links - Special Edition

YOUR GUIDE TO AUTOMATED TRASH COLLECTION



April 18, 2023



The City's curbside solid waste collection service is changing from manual to automated collection on May 1st!

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After several months of review and discussion, the City Council made the decision to convert from manual to automated collection due to the significant cost increases associated with collecting and disposing of trash and recycling. Continuing with manual collection would have reduced the City's ability to provide other needed City services.

Laconia residents and property owners may have many questions about this new method for having trash and recycling collected. We are here to answer any questions you may have to help guide us all through this transition.

We have created this special edition of the City's newsletter to provide as much detail as possible on this new process; however, as with any significant change there will always be questions as we move forward. We encourage you to contact the Department of Public Works at 603-528-6379 for additional information or for any concerns you may have.



HELPFUL TIPS

[See a You Tube Video showing how automated collection works](#)

[Curbside Container Placement Guide](#)

WE'RE ON A ROLL

City of Laconia, say hello to your new recycling cart!

New cans are coming soon to your home

Switching to automated collection means residents will receive a new container for both trash and recycling!

We are now in the process of delivering the new containers; this process will be completed by April 30.

These containers will belong to the City and when a resident or tenant moves, the containers will stay with the property.

Each container will have a serial number which will provide property owners the ability to keep track of which container is theirs.

To Learn More, visit laconianh.gov or call **603-528-6379**



A description of your new containers...

The color of the new recycling container matches the color of the green recycling container the City sold approximately ten years ago. Using the same colors for the old and new style recycling container ensures that the collection contractor's operator is not confused. The manufacturer will also stamp the lid of the recycling container with the recyclable symbol and the words "Recyclables Only".



The trash container will have a bright yellow top so that the operator knows that the container is a trash container. The lid is stamped with the words "Trash Only".



Property owners who previously purchased the 64-gallon recycling container (shown left) and did not notify Public Works that they did not want a new container will receive a new 96-gallon recycling container. Please keep in mind that you can only use one recycling container. If you wish to continue

to use the old recycling container, please inform Public Works so that they can make arrangements to pick up the new 96-gallon container. This will ensure that the contractor is only servicing the quantity of containers allowed per property under the City's Ordinance.

Questions? Please call the Department of Public Works at 603-528-6379.

What do I do with my old containers?

Residents can use their existing cans or bins for composting or storage or give them to others who do not receive curbside recycling to re-use.

Residents who want to dispose of their old trash and recycling containers have three options:

1. Bring them to the Transfer Station on Free Dump Day, May 13, when you can dispose of them for free.
2. The week of April 24th mark the containers with the words, "Take can as trash" and the collection contractor will take the containers and dispose of them for you.
3. Bring the containers to the Transfer Station at your convenience. You will pay a fee for disposing of the containers if you use this option.

Comparison of the new containers by size:



Number of containers and sizes:

Under the new automated collection process the number of containers each property will receive and can use has changed.

The allowed amount of trash to be placed out for collection remains the same or increases slightly, but the number of containers a property is allowed is reduced based on the occupancy of the property.

Single Family Residences:

A single family residence that receives curbside service will automatically receive one 64-gallon trash container and one 96-gallon recycling container. (One 64-gallon trash container exceeds the capacity of the two 30-gallon containers formerly allowed by City Ordinance).



Duplexes and triplexes on public roads will receive one 96-gallon recycling container and one 64-gallon trash container per unit. In other words, a duplex will receive a total of two 96-gallon containers for recycling and a total of two 64-gallon containers for trash.

A triplex will receive a total of three 96-gallon containers for recycling and a total of three 64-gallon containers for trash.

Apartments and condominiums with more than 3 units on public roads will receive a total of four 96-gallon recycling containers and a total of four 64-gallon trash containers.

The number of containers allocated is based on the occupancy data for the property. This data is from the City's tax maps. Landlords and condominium associations are responsible for allocating space in the solid waste containers to their tenants and property owners.

Any property (businesses, apartments or condominiums) that has a dumpster will not receive either trash or recycling containers.

Multi-family complexes with over four units will only receive four 64-gallon trash and four 96-gallon recycling containers. Presently, these complexes are authorized seven 30-gallon trash containers. Thus, the complexes will have more capacity but less number of containers. Condominium associations, property owners and managers should plan how to allocate these containers to their residents.

Properties with multiple businesses and a combination of business and apartments will also not receive more than four of each type of container. The number of containers delivered will not exceed the property's occupancy if it is less than four.

Do you live on a private road?

Residents and businesses on private roads that do not currently receive curbside collection will continue to not receive curbside collection services after the conversion.



Properties on private roads can continue to bring their solid waste to a public (City or State) right-of-way. These property owners will need to request their containers from Public Works.

Recycling of cardboard

One of the most critical changes is that all trash and recycling, including cardboard boxes, must fit in their respective container and the lids must close. The driver will not get out of the truck to collect bagged trash that is above the rim of the container and will not collect cardboard boxes that are beside the containers. Residents and businesses can bring cardboard boxes that do not fit into the recycling container to either the Transfer Station or the corrugated cardboard collection point at 257 Messer Street.



One-way streets and streets without cul-de-sacs



The City's curbside collection service converts from manual to automated collection on May 1st.

The collection arm is on the right side of the truck. Residents on dead-end streets without a cul-de-sac, and one-way and narrow roads must place their solid waste containers on only one side of these streets.

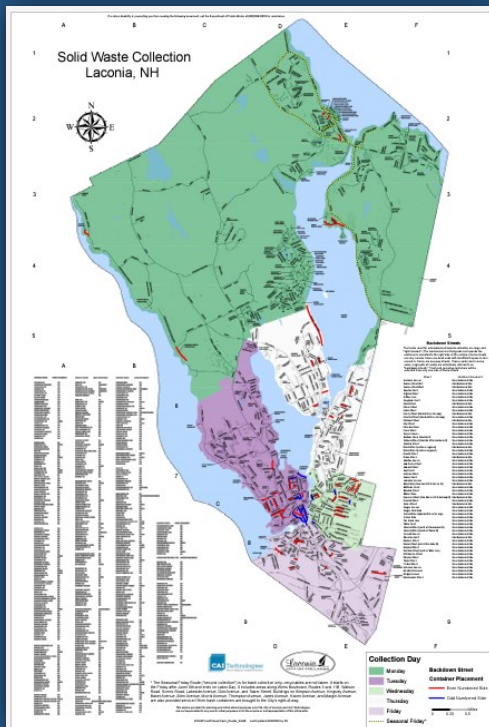
When the collection truck is on a dead-end public street without a cul-de-sac, the truck cannot turn around. The truck must back up or down the street to collect solid waste. The collection truck on one-way streets can only empty containers on the right side of the truck.

Also, some streets are so narrow the truck can only drive one way on the street.

Beginning May 1st, if you live on one of the streets which will require the contractor to back down your street or drive only one-way, please place your solid waste containers on the side of the road as noted on the map (left). A full sized version of the map is accessible by clicking on the map image.

As always, if you have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to the Department of Public Works at 603-528-6379.

Thank you for your patience as we begin this new process!



Curbside leaf pickup - Spring and Fall

Curbside leaf pickup will continue to be provided after the conversion to automated collection. The spring leaf pickup is scheduled for the weeks of May 1 - May 5, and May 15 - May 19, and the fall leaf pickup will be the weeks of October 30 - November 3, and November 13 - November 17. The City's contractor will pick up an additional 10 bags of leaves during these weeks on your normal trash day.

All materials must be placed in paper compost bags.

Please note that yard waste will be collected by a separate truck, not the normal trash collection truck.



Bulky item collection

After the conversion to automated collection, the City's solid waste collection contractor will continue to collect bulky items at the curb if you place a bulky item sticker on the oversized item. Bulky item pickup stickers are \$8 each and may be purchased at the Laconia City Clerk's office, or at the Department of Public Works. The types of bulky items the City will collect at the curb **does not change**.

However, when and how the items will be collected changes effective May 1st in conjunction with the conversion to automated collection. **Bulky metal items** will still be collected on the first Wednesday of the month by appointment only. **Bulky items such as furniture and mattresses** will no longer be collected on your scheduled curbside collection day. These items **will only be collected** on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays of the month and an **appointment is required**.



For details on bulky items that can be picked up, please visit the links below:

[Non-Metal Bulky Item Collection](#)
[Metal Bulky Item Collection](#)

To make an appointment for a bulky item collection please call Public Works at 603-528-6379.